

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 27 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-47 remain pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-47 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not sufficiently described in the specification, specifically with respect to limitations added in Applicants' Amendment A, filed August 28, 2002 (and it appears received at the USPTO on September 4, 2002). Applicants respectfully note that claims 1-47 as amended in Amendment A find support in the specification, without limitation, on page 13, lines 4-9.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-47 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and/or §103(a), based separately on the Richardson and Will references, either singly or in combination with other references.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Independent claims 1 and 27 were rejected based on Richardson and Will, singly under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and in each in combination with Ise under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

With respect to claim 1, the claim has been amended to recite "a transmitting device *installed* at a first physical location" configured to "develop a presence signal intended for a second individual at a second physical location *and to transmit said presence signal over a physical data line associated with said first physical location*" and "a receiving device located at said second physical location which is receptive to said presence signal and which is operative to generate an indication to said second individual of said first individual's presence *at said first physical location.*" (Emphasis added.) Support for the claim amendments may be found,

without limitation, in the Application at page 8, line 8 – page 9, line 12 and page 17, line 4 – page 20, line 21. Each of Richardson, Will, and Ise teaches a radio paging system, the applicable components of which may readily be removed from one location to another, not one “installed” at a “first physical location” and configured “to transmit said presence signal over a physical data line associated with said first physical location” as recited in claim 1. Richardson 5:4-17, 5:59-6:11; Will 9:16-31; Ise 4:35-55. Such pager devices and/or components may readily be moved from one location to another and, as such, would not be an advantageous way to communicate a user’s physical “presence” at any particular physical location in the convenient, lightweight manner described in applicants’ specification, since the user could be anywhere when the signal is activated. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be allowable over Richardson and Will, either singly or in combination with Ise.

Claims 2-26 and claims 45-47 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Like claim 1, claim 27 has been amended to recite “transmitting from a transmitting device installed at a first physical location and over a data line associated with said first physical location ... a presence signal intended for a second individual at a second physical location” and “receiving at said second physical location said presence signal and generating an indication to said second individual of said first individual’s presence at said first physical location.” Therefore, claim 27 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 28-44 depend from claim 27 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment with additions underlined and deletions struck through. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. James
Registration No. 40,661
V 408-973-2592
F 408-973-2595

VAN PELT AND YI, LLP
10050 N. Foothill Blvd., Suite 200
Cupertino, CA 95014



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) An intentional presence system comprising:

a transmitting device installed at a first physical location that is responsive to a command intentionally initiated by a first individual at said first physical location to develop a presence signal intended for a second individual at a second physical location and to transmit said presence signal over a physical data line associated with said first physical location; and

a receiving device located at said second physical location which is receptive to said presence signal and which is operative to generate an indication to said second individual of said first individual's presence [with respect to said transmitting device] at said first physical location;

wherein said indication comprises a message programmed into the receiving device by a programming individual other than said second individual.

27. (Twice Amended) A method for intentionally signaling a presence comprising:

transmitting from a transmitting device installed at a first physical location and over a data line associated with said first physical location, in response to a command intentionally initiated by a first individual at said first physical location, a presence signal intended for a second individual at a second physical location; and

receiving at said second physical location said presence signal and generating an indication to said second individual of said first individual's presence at said first physical location;

wherein said indication [includes] comprises a message programmed into a receiving device located at said second physical location by a programming individual other than the second individual.